JUN 2 1 2004 ET

PATENT Customer No. 22,852 Attorney Docket No. 07553.0017

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
Mitsuru ISHIKAWA et al.))) Group Art Unit: 1763)) Examiner: Allan W. OLSEN)
Application No.: 09/696,232	
Filed: October 26, 2000	
For: ETCHING METHOD)

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION

In reply to the Office Action mailed February 27, 2004, the period for response having been extended to June 27, 2004 by a request for extension of one month and fee payment filed concurrently herewith, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims in this paper. **Remarks** follow the amendment section of this paper.